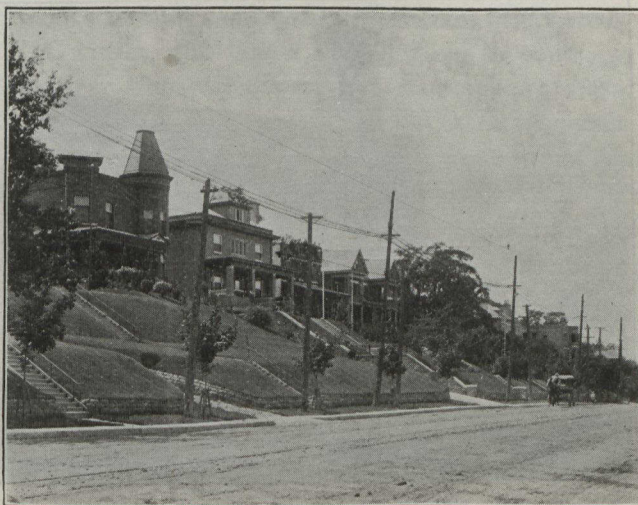


ST. CATHERINE ROAD

On this boulevard are some of Canada's finest private residences

father of the present mayor, Joseph Beaubien. Rather an interesting link between Outremont and the Great North West is in the present Town Hall, which was the home of Warren Dease, who over a hundred years back, seeking a bright spot to retire after many years in the North West fur trade, settled on the breezy plateau of Outremont and built his home, which with little alteration, now houses the fathers of the community. Until 1875 the vicinity was known as Cote St. Catherines when on its incorporation as a village it was decided to change the name to Outremont, the meaning of which starts this sketch "Beyond the Mountain," suggested by the homestead of Jean Bouthellier which had the same name, and who had come to live in the district some years before. The first mayor being David Edwards who had six councillors to assist him, one of whom, Ed. Cooke, was the father of Ald. Robt. Cooke of the present council.

In a very interesting series of extracts from the minutes of the Councils of Outremont from 1875 to



One of Outremont's Terraced Avenues

the present, prepared by Mr. E. T. Sampson, the Town Clerk, one notes that the first meeting of the electors was held in a private house where the first council was elected, showing that the election process was a very simple one in those days. In the same year is recorded the "decision to construct a plank sidewalk on St. Catherine Rd., to the limit of the town." To-day concrete sidewalks have taken its place. In those days too the finances were very much simplified for in 1877 the secretary reported a balance of:

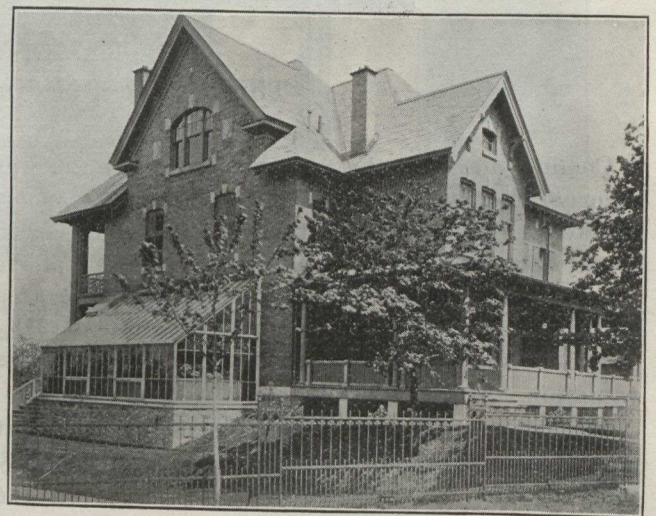
Taxes unpaid \$165.07.

Outstanding liabilities \$829.71.

Assets \$205.01.

It will therefore be necessary to press for payment of taxes."

In 1880 the rate of assessment was fixed at $2\frac{1}{2}$ mills, and the following year, to reduce expenses, the services of a constable were dispensed with.



A Typical Outremont Residence

The first by-law passed to borrow money was in 1896, soon after Outremont had become incorporated as a town, when it was decided to issue bonds for \$100,000. On October, 1896 the rate of assessment was increased to 5 mills.

Two examples show the splendid position of Outremont's financial standing—in 1910 an issue of \$75,000 sold for \$109.59 and in 1912 an issue of \$450,00 town debentures of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent realized \$102.024.

Before leaving the historical side of Outremont it would be well to point out, as showing the continuity of the family life, that many of the residences or sites have been occupied by families for more than one generation. As an instance of which the old home of Dr. Beaubien still forms part of the residence of his grandson—one hundred years after.